

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT REISSUANCE AND PUBLIC HEARING  
SC Department of Health and Environmental Control  
Bureau of Water  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Public Notice No. 15-153-R

Date: August 14, 2015

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REISSUANCE OF A  
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

The following applicant has reapplied for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge treated wastewater into waters of the State of South Carolina. The NPDES permit contains effluent limitations on the amounts of pollutants allowed to be discharged, based upon preliminary staff review and application of the Federal Clean Water Act, the SC Pollution Control Act, and other lawful standards and appropriate regulations. The pollutant limitations and other permit conditions are tentative and open to comment from the public.

APPLICANT: DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS LLC, FACILITY NAME: DUKE ENERGY/W.S. LEE STEAM STATION (ANDERSON COUNTY/ANDERSON EQC OFFICE), NPDES permit #SC0002291, PO BOX 1006 MAIL CODE EC13K, CHARLOTTE, NC 28201-1006. The facility is located at 205 Lee Steam Plant Road, Belton, South Carolina, Anderson County. The facility has 3 discharge points: 001-combined cycle station cooling tower blowdown from 01A, combined cycle station (new) low volume wastewater from 01B, combined cycle station sanitary wastewater from 01C, and Unit 3 once-through condenser cooling water from 01D, discharging to: Saluda River; 003-Unit 3 cooling tower basin overflow, discharging to: Saluda River; 004-ash basin discharge, discharging to: Saluda River. The Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Code for the facility is 4911. The receiving streams are classified Class FW: freshwaters suitable for primary and secondary contact recreation and as a source for drinking water supply after conventional treatment in accordance with the requirements of the Department. Suitable for fishing and the survival and propagation of a balanced indigenous aquatic community of fauna and flora. Suitable also for industrial and agricultural uses. The analysis for permit limits in this permit included less stringent alternative criteria in accordance with Part E.14.c(7) of SC Regulation 61-68, Water Classifications and Standards, for one or more parameters. The determination to set site-specific effluent limits or not limit certain parameters was based on such criteria. Section 316(a) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) allows the Department to impose alternate and less stringent thermal limitations after demonstration that the water quality standards limitations are more stringent than necessary to assure protection and propagation of a balanced, indigenous population of shellfish, fish and wildlife. A CWA Section 316(a) request has been filed and alternate less stringent limitations may be imposed similar to the prior permit. The proposed temperature limitations are 96°F in the summer and 90°F in the winter. A fact sheet is available. Groundwater will be monitored at 15 monitoring wells. This Permit when issued will supersede an existing permit which expired on June 30, 2013. This permit includes requirements for 316(b) Cooling Water Intake Structures. The permit requires a coal ash pond closure plan which involves removal of ash prior to closure.

HEARING AND COMMENT PERIOD. Persons wishing to comment on or object to permit issuance or to the proposed permit limitations and conditions are invited to submit same in writing by September 18, 2015 to the attention of: Mr. Byron Amick; SC DHEC; Water Facilities Permitting Division; 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; or via e-mail at AMICKBM@DHEC.SC.GOV. The permit number should be placed at the top of the first page of comments. The hearing will begin at 6:30pm at the Williamston Municipal Center on September 14, 2015 (12 West Main Street, Williamston, SC 29697). Additional parking is at the rear of the building. Any individuals with disabilities or special needs who wish to participate in these proceedings or review the Department's files on this permit should contact the person listed below by two weeks before the hearing date to discuss any special aids or services required. SC DHEC is not involved in zoning, land use, or property value issues. Please contact your local County or Municipal officials for questions or concerns on these issues.

All comments received within the period will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the permit. All persons submitting written comments (or making oral comments at the hearing) will be notified of the final determinations. Requests for adjudicatory hearings may be filed after the above described determinations have been made. Additional information regarding adjudicatory hearings is available from the Legal Office at the above Department address or by calling 803-898-3350.

Additional information on proposed permit determinations and on hearing procedures is available by writing or calling the Department at the above address or telephone number. Copies of a specific application or draft permit of interest to an individual, organization, or company must be requested in writing. A fee schedule has been established for processing these requests: Reproduction of documents - \$0.25 per page. Requests must be mailed to the Freedom of Information Office at 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201, phone number: 803-898-3882; or requests may be faxed to the Freedom of Information Office at 803-898-3816. Arrangements can be made to review all the permit information at the Freedom of Information Office on the third floor of the Sims Building across from Peeples Auditorium.

Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons you know will be interested in this matter.